

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03072 01 OF 02 310107Z

67

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 AF-04 NEA-07 ARA-06 EA-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8468

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3072

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING JULY 29

REF: (A) STATE 187677, (B) STATE 186122, (C) USUN 2964,  
(D) USUN 2664, (E) USUN 2877, (F) USUN 2742, (G) USUN 3018,  
(H) USUN 3029, (I) USUN 2873(ALL NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: KOREA CORE GROUP MET UNDER ROK CHAIRMANSHIP  
ON JULY 29, 1976 AT WORKING LEVEL AT THE NETHERLANDS MISSION.  
ALL MEMBERS REPRESENTED. CORE GROUP REVIEWED SOME RECENT  
LOBBYING RETURNS AS WELL AS INCONCLUSIVE LOCAL CHINESE  
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PAGE 02 USUN N 03072 01 OF 02 310107Z

AND NORTH KOREAN REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S JULY 22 PROPOSAL.

CORE GROUP DECIDED, AD REFERENDUM TO CAPITALS, ON AMENDMENT TO PREAMBULAR PARA 3 OF DRAFT CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION AS WELL AS ON INSERTION OF NEW PARAGRAPH IN EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM. LATTER WOULD BE TO TAKE NOTE OF JULY 22 PROPOSAL. CORE GROUP COMMENCED DISCUSSION OF PRIORITY AND REALATED DEFERMENT QUESTIONS. CONSIDERATION OF THEM IN DEPTH HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR 1500, AUGUST 5, WHEN CORE GROUP NEXT WILL MEET. IN THIS CONNECTION, ROK CHAIRMAN STATED THAT "UPPERMOST AND UTMOST" DESIRE OF ROK WAS POSTPONEMENT OF DEBATE ON KOREAN QUESTION, "NATURALLY OR OTHERWISE". HE ADDED THAT, WERE THERE CONCRETE INDICATIONS THAT CONCEDING PRIORITY WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE DAMAGING, ROK WOULD READILY CONSIDER THESE. WITH REFERENCE IN PARTICULAR TO CORE GROUP AGREEMENT ON JULY 21 TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT THEY INSTRUCT THEIR CONVENERS TO CONVENE LOCAL CORE GROUPS WITH VIEW TO MAKING EARLY DEMARCHES REQUESTED BY U.S., CANADA, ON INSTRUCTIONS, EXPRESSED OTTAWA'S CONCERN THAT CORE GROUP APPEARED TO BE TAKING INITIATIVES WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH CAPITALS. END SUMMARY.

CANADIAN COMPLAINT:

2. CANADA, ON INSTRUCTIONS, EXPRESSED OTTAWA'S CONCERN THAT CORE GROUP APPEARED TO BE TAKING INITIATIVES WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH CAPITALS. THE EXTENT TO WHICH CANADA WAS PREPARED TO LOBBY WOULD DEPEND ON DEGREE TO WHICH CANADA CONSIDERED AN ITEM "SALABLE". CANADA CONSIDERED THE JULY 22 POLITICAL INITIATIVE TO HAVE BEEN ESSENTIALLY A US/ROK PROPOSAL AND, THEREFORE, THOSE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE THE MAIN ROLE IN PROMOTING IT. CANADA WOULD, HOWEVER, LEND SOME SUPPORT. CANADA EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS THE JULY 21 DECISION OF THE CORE GROUP TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITALS THAT THEY INSTRUCT THEIR CONVENERS OF LOCAL CORE GROUPS IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE THE U.S.-REQUESTED DEMARCHES (PARAS 8 AND 9 OF REF (C)) WHICH HAD LED OTTAWA TO RAISE ISSUE. ROK CHAIRMAN TOLD CANADA HE WOULD KEEP THESE VIEWS IN MIND IN CONDUCTION CORE GROUP BUSINESS.

3. AMENDMENTS:

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PAGE 03 USUN N 03072 01 OF 02 310107Z

(A) ROK PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH OF DRAFT CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION (REF (D)). CORE GROUP AGREED, A REFERENDUM TO CAPITALS, ON FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTION: IN THIRD PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH: STRIKE OUT "THE RESOLUTION OF THE KOREAN PROBLEM" AT END OF PARAGRAPH AND REPLACE THOSE WORDS WITH "THE RECONCILIATION OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE".

(B) ROK ALSO PROPOSED INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO JULY 22 PROPOSAL IN DRAFT CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION. CONSENSUS OF GROUP WAS THAT THIS MIGHT MOST APPROPRIATELY BE MENTIONED IN EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM (REF (E)). FOLLOWING LANGUAGE AGREED, AD REFERENDUM, FOR INCLUSION AS NEW PARA 4 IN EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM:  
"ON 22 JULY 1976, THE UNITED STATES OFFERED A CONCRETE PROPOSAL INVITING THE OTHER THREE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO A CONFERENCE TO CONSIDER NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADAPTATION OR REPLACEMENT OF THE KOREAN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT SO AS TO TERMINATE THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND AND TO INSURE A LASTING PEACE IN KOREA. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE UNITED STATES ALSO PROPOSED A PREPARATORY MEETING AMONG THE FOUR PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK OR ELSEWHERE DURING THE 31ST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THIS PROPOSAL, REGRETTABLY, HAS NOT MET WITH A POSITIVE RESPONSE."

(C) PARAGRAPHS FOLLOWING NEW PARA 4 THEN WOULD BE NUMBERED 5, 6 AND 7. ADDITIONALLY, NEW PARA 5 WOULD COMMENCE WITH WORDS, "UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES".

(D) ROK READILY DROPPED ITS PROPOSAL TO COMBINE FIRST PREAMBULAR AND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH NUMBER ONE OF DRAFT CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION (REF (F)) INTO NEW INITIAL PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPH AFTER MAJORITY CONSIDERED THE TWO PARAGRAPHS BETTER LEFT SEPARATE.

#### 4. NORTH KOREAN AND CHINESE REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL.

(A) COSTA RICA (MINISTER VARGAS) REPORTED HIS JULY 28 MEETING WITH NORTH KOREA'S MINISTER KIM. VARGAS HAD MET  
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PAGE 04 USUN N 03072 01 OF 02 310107Z

KIM EARLIER (USUN 2664). KIM HAD FOR SOME WEEKS BEEN ASKING FOR MEETING, WHICH TOOK PLACE ON JULY 28 IN INDOMESIAN LOUNGE AT UN HEADQUARTERS FOR SOME WEEKS. ON JULY 28, KIM, TAKING FAMILIAR NORHT KOREAN POSITIONS POURED COLD WATER ON U.S. PROPOSAL AS HE HAS DONE IN REPLY TO UPI CORRESPONDENT'S QUESTION ON JULY 23 (REF (G)). KIM CLAIMED TO VARGAS THAT NORTH KOREA HAD UNANIMOUS NONALIGNED SUPPORT FOR A RESOLUTION AT COLOMBO. HOWEVER, IN REPLY TO VARGAS'S SPECIFIC QUESTION, KIM WOULD NOT SAY THAT THERE WOULD BE A PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION TABLED FOR THE 31ST UNGA. HE INDICATED NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS. KIM WAS EAGER TO LEARN CORE GROUP'S INTENTIONS, AND KIM ACCUSED VARGAS OF NOT BEING "OPEN" WHEN VARGAS SAID THERE WERE NO CURRENT PLANS TO INSCRIBE ITEM AND TABLE A FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. WHEN VARGAS SAID THAT DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION WAS OUR SIDE'S

DESIRE, KIM REPLIED THAT CONFRONTATION WAS UNAVOIDABLE DUE TO U.S. AND ROK ACTIONS IN KOREA. THEREFORE, IT WAS NECESSARY TO BRING THE ISSUE BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION TO PROBING CORE GROUP INTENTIONS, KIM HANDED OVER INVITATIONS FOR VARGAS AND A COSTA RICAN YOUTH GROUP TO VISIT NORTH KOREA.

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PAGE 01 USUN N 03072 02 OF 02 310132Z

67

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 3072

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(B) VARGAS RETURNED TO HIS CONVERSATION REGARDING THE JULY 22 PROPOSAL WITH CHINA'S COUNSELOR CHOU NAN. IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. PROPOSAL, CHOU NAN HAD SEEN A "GOOD POSSIBILITY" FOR INFORMAL CONTACTS DURING THE UNGA BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTERS.

(C) DRAWING ON REF (H), U.S. SAID THAT A MORE SENIOR MEMBER THAN KIM OF NORTH KOREA'S OBSERVER OFFICE HAD TOLD A WESTERN AMBASSADOR THAT KIM HAD BEEN SPEAKING WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION WHEN HE DENOUNCED OUR PROPOSAL TO THE UPI CORRESPONDENT. FURTHERMORE, PYONGYANG HAD NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION ON THE U.S. PROPOSAL. ADDITIONALLY, U.S. COMMENTED ON CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USUN N 03072 02 OF 02 310132Z

JULY 27 CONVERSATION WITH CHINA'S COUNSELOR CHOU NAN DURING WHICH NOTE WAS TAKEN THAT NO KOREAN ITEM WAS ON DRAFT UNGA AGENDA WHICH HAD GONE TO PRESS. WHEN U.S. EMPHASIZED OUR DESIRE TO PROMOTE DIALOGUE RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION ON KOREA, CHOU NAN DID NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT CONFRONTATION AT UNGA MIGHT BE AVOIDED. CHOU NAN SAID HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY OFFICIAL REACTION TO OUR JULY 22 PROPOSAL FROM PEKING OR PYONGYANG.

5. LOBBYING RETURNS:

(A) UK REPORTED RETURNS FROM FOLLOWING COUNTRIES WHERE IT SERVES AS CONVENER:

(I) OMAN IS MORE ROBUST IN SUPPORT OF FRIENDLY POSITION THAN IN MAY. OMAN SAW NONALIGNED SUMMIT MORE DIFFICULT ENVIRONMENT THAN UNGA.

(II) KUWAIT WOULD SUPPORT ANY MOVE FOR DIALOGUE AND CONSIDERED THAT ANOTHER UN DEBATE ON KOREA WOULD BE A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.

(III) SUDAN WOULD WORK FOR A GENERAL FORMULA AT COLOMBO WHICH DID NOT EXACERBATE PRESENT KOREAN SITUATION. FURTHERMORE, SUDAN BELIEVED THAT BOTH KOREAN PARTIES SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AT TALKS.

(IV) QATAR WOULD TAKE SAME POSITION AT COLOMBO AS IT TOOK DURING UNGA LAST YEAR - (I.E. DOUBLE ABSTENTION).

(V) CYPRUS TOOK NOTE OF OUR SIDE'S DEMARCHE BUT MADE NO COMMENTS.

(VI) THE GAMBIA WOULD SUPPORT THE ROK AT BOTH COLOMBO AND NEW YORK.

(VII) NO REASON TO DOUBT LESOTHO'S SOLID SUPPORT FOR THE U.S. PROPOSAL.

(VIII) AFGHANISTAN (WHERE U.K. NOT CONVENER)  
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PAGE 03 USUN N 03072 02 OF 02 310132Z

FORESAW POSSIBILITY OF INDONESIAN INITIATIVE AT COLOMBO  
TO REFER KOREAN PROBLEM FOR FURTHER "REGIONAL" CONSIDERATION.

(B) THE NETHERLANDS HAD REPORT FROM JAKARTA (WHERE IT NOT  
CONVENER) THAT INDONESIA TOGETHER WITH MALAYSIA AND  
SINGAPORE WOULD TRY FOR A DEFERMENT ON KOREA SO AS TO AVOID  
DISCUSSION IN FORTHCOMING UNGA.

(C) THE FRG, REPORTING ON MAURITANIA AND THE  
YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC WHERE IT IS CONVENER, SAID THAT  
MAURITANIA MAY ABSENT ITSELF DURING UNGA VOTING ON KOREA.  
ADDITIONALLY, THE YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC, WHICH COULD NOT  
SWING COMPLETELY TO A WESTERN POSITION, WOULD PROBABLY  
ABSTAIN OR BE ABSENT DURING THIS YEAR'S VOTING.

(D) REFERRING TO BHUTAN AND SYRIA WHERE IT  
IS CONVENER, JAPAN REPORTED THAT BHUTAN WOULD REMAIN  
"STRICTLY NEUTRAL" AND THAT SYRIA JUST TOOK NOTE OF  
DEMARCHE.

(E) U.S. REPORTED SWAZILAND (WHERE IT IS CON-  
VENER) HOLDING FIRM, AS WELL AS INDICATION FROM FRG CHARGE  
(CONVENER) IN ADDIS THAT ETHIOPIA MAY BE TAKING MORE  
REASONABLE APPROACH. U.S. ALSO REPORTED GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S  
MEETING WITH YUGOSLAVIA'S FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC AND INDICATION  
THAT YUGOSLAVS, WHILE ON THE WHOLE SUPPORTING NORTH KOREA,  
WERE NOT PREPARED TO SEE ROK EXCLUDED FROM TALKS. ADDITIONALLY,  
YUGOSLAVS WOULD DISCUSS U.S. PROPOSAL WITH NORTH KOREANS WITH  
WHOM THEY HAD GOOD RELATIONS.

#### 6. CONVENER ASSIGNMENTS

JAPAN SAID IT PREFERRED NOT TO ACT AS CONVENER IN  
MADAGASCAR, JAPAN'S RELATIONS WITH MADAGASCAR WERE POOR  
AND ITS REPRESENTATION THERE LOW-LEVEL. THE FRG AGREED TO ACT  
AS CONVENER IN MADAGASCAR. ADDITIONALLY, THE FRG HAD  
AGREED TO ACT AS CONVENER IN SOMALIA. AS REPORTED  
ABOVE, JAPAN IS ACTING AS CONVENER IN BHUTAN FROM NEW DELHI.

#### 7. PRIORITY AND DEFERMENT

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PAGE 04 USUN N 03072 02 OF 02 310132Z

CORE GROUP RECOGNIZED KEY IMPORTANCE NOW OF ITS WORK ON  
QUESTIONS OF PRIORITY AND DEFERMENT. MEMBERS AGREED TO TAKE

THEM UP IN DEPTH ON AUGUST 5 WHEN CORE GROUP WOULD NEXT MEET. IN REPLY TO NETHERLANDS QUESTION WHICH EMPHASIZED THAT ROK INTERESTS WERE PARAMOUNT, ROK CHAIRMAN STATED THAT "UPPERMOST AND UTMOST" DESIRE OF ROK WAS POSTPONEMENT OF DEBATE ON KOREA QUESTION NATURALLY OR OTHERWISE (E.G. EITHER THROUGH NON-INSCRIPTION OF ANY ITEM BY EITHER SIDE OR THROUGH DEFERMENT IN GERNAL COMMITTEE OR ELSEWHERE). HE ADDED THAT, SHOULD CORE GROUP MEMBERS BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME CONCRETE INDICATIONS THAT CONCEDING PRIORITY WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE DAMAGING, ROK WOULD READILY CONSIDER THESE. U.S. POINTED OUT INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF PRIORITY AND DEFERMENT QUESTIONS. WOULD, FOR INSTANCE, THIRD PARTIES BE MORE LIKELY TO MOVE FOR DEFERMENT IF OUR SIDE HAD OR HAD NOT CONCEDED PRIORITY? ANOTHER VITAL QUESTION WAS WHETHER WE WOULD BE LIKELY TO LOSE OR EVEN POSSIBLE GAIN VOTES IF WE LACKED PRIORITY AND OUR RESOLUTION CAME TO THE VOTE? U.S. STRESSED IN THE LIGHT OF CORE GROUP CAMPAIGN AGAINST CONFRONTATION, THAT THESE WERE SOME OF HARD QUESTIONS WHICH CORE GROUP MUST ADDRESS ON SCENE IN NEW YORK. (USUN BELIEVES IT HAS MATERIAL AT HAND TO CONTRIBUTE TO AUGUST 5 DISCUSSION ON PRIORITY AND DEFERMENT. DEPARTMENT MAY, HOWEVER, HAVE CONSIDERATIONS IT WOULD WISH TO HAVE RAISED.)

8. GENERAL COMMITTEE

GENERAL COMMITTEE COMPOSITION REMAINS AS FORESEEN  
PARA 7 (REF (I)).

9. FRG REPORTED THAT MISSION COUNSELOR DR. DIETRICH VON KYAW WOULD BE TRAVELLING FROM NEW YORK TO COLOMBO TO OBSERVE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT.  
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